

protect the Social Security surplus. What they forget to mention is it is only true when the Republican leadership tells CBO to change their numbers. How convenient.

When the Republicans wave around the CBO certification that they are protecting Social Security, they conveniently forget to mention the footnote that says that the estimate includes, "reductions applied to CBO's estimates for congressional score-keeping purposes." In other words, the Republican leadership had to tell CBO to change their estimates to reduce the estimates of spending to make their numbers work. They use these estimates when they are convenient; but when they do not like it, they use other estimates. It is time for responsible budgeting.

TIGHTEN BELT TO SAVE SOCIAL SECURITY

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, let me say this to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SANDLIN), the previous speaker, it is not about inside Washington accounting mumbo jumbo, it is about grandmother's retirement check, and I am going to do everything I can as a Republican to protect it.

Now, I do know this, that in January, the President of the United States said let us preserve only 60 percent of the Social Security surplus. The Republican position has been, let us preserve 100 percent. Let us balance the budget, not through spending Social Security on non-Social Security means, but let us do it by just good old-fashioned belt tightening.

Now, imagine some little roly-poly fat kid at the banquet table on his third piece of apple pie saying I want more. All we are saying is, look, we want you to slim it down, push back 1 cent on the dollar, tighten that belt just a little bit, about a half a notch. Then if you will do that, we do not have to get even close to Social Security money.

That is what the Republican Party is trying to get the Democrats to do. I hope that they will join us.

REMEMBER THAT SECOND AMENDMENT IS RIGHT TO BEAR ARMS

(Mr. METCALF asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. METCALF. Mr. Speaker, let us go back to the founding of our Nation. Why were the British soldiers marching toward Lexington and Concord in the darkness of April 18, 1775? Because they had heard correctly that the colonists were stockpiling guns and ammunition.

The colonists had been trying to work out their problems with the king. But when the British moved to take away their guns, they went to war.

When the amendments were added to the Constitution, first amendment of course a priority, freedom of speech and freedom of religion. But what is the second amendment, the right to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed. Let us remember that.

STOPPING THE RAID ON SOCIAL SECURITY

(Mr. THUNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. THUNE. Mr. Speaker, being a leader means making some tough choices. This year we have an historic opportunity to lock away 100 percent of the Social Security surplus and put an end to the practice of raiding the Social Security Trust Fund. It means we have to make a tough choice between Social Security and funding some other goals, like the President's desire to increase foreign aid spending by 30 percent.

The question is not whether we want to spend more on foreign aid or other government programs, the question is whether we want to spend more on these programs if it comes at the expense of Social Security.

Mr. Speaker, Republicans have already made our choice. We have chosen to say no to more government spending and yes to stopping the raid on Social Security. The American people agree with us. They would rather protect Social Security and Medicare and cut spending across the board for all other programs than raid Social Security again.

There is only one question that has not been answered, Mr. Speaker, and that is: Where does the President stand and where do our friend's on the other side stand? Will they block this legislation and insist on more government spending or will they join us in a bipartisan effort to end the raid on Social Security once and for all. For the sake of our future, I hope they will choose the latter.

TELL THE TRUTH, THE WHOLE TRUTH, AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH

(Mr. GARY MILLER of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, is there any reason or wonder that the American people are confused? I wish, prior to us being allowed to come here and talk to the American people, that we had to raise our hand and say, I swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help me God.

All we have heard today and past days is the Republicans are spending Social Security monies. But actions speak louder than words. My friends on the other side of the aisle continue to vote no on appropriations bills. The President continues to veto appropriations bills. Why? Because we are not

spending enough money that has to come from Social Security Trust Fund.

Why do we not do what we say we are trying to do? Let us not spend the money which we do not want to spend. We use great words like let us invest. We are not appropriating enough resources. What they are saying is we are not spending enough Social Security money.

We are saying, let us not spend Social Security money. Let us keep our promise to the American people. Let us stop being disingenuous. When one hears people come before one and say something, watch what they do. When they accuse Republicans of spending Social Security money, watch how they vote.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OSE). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the pending business is the question of agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal of the last day's proceedings.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 346, nays 65, not voting 22, as follows:

[Roll No. 563]

YEAS—346

Abercrombie	Bryant	Delahunt
Ackerman	Burton	DeLauro
Andrews	Buyer	DeLay
Archer	Callahan	DeMint
Armey	Calvert	Deutsch
Bachus	Camp	Diaz-Balart
Baker	Campbell	Dicks
Baldacci	Canady	Dingell
Baldwin	Cannon	Dixon
Ballenger	Capps	Doggett
Barr	Capuano	Dooley
Barrett (NE)	Cardin	Doolittle
Barrett (WI)	Carson	Dreier
Bartlett	Castle	Duncan
Barton	Chabot	Dunn
Bass	Chambliss	Edwards
Bateman	Clayton	Ehlers
Becerra	Clement	Ehrlich
Bentsen	Clyburn	Engel
Berkley	Coble	Eshoo
Berman	Coburn	Etheridge
Biggert	Collins	Everett
Billakis	Combest	Ewing
Bishop	Condit	Farr
Blagojevich	Conyers	Fletcher
Bliley	Cook	Foley
Blumenauer	Cox	Forbes
Blunt	Coyne	Ford
Boehlert	Cramer	Fossella
Boehner	Crowley	Fowler
Bonilla	Cubin	Frank (MA)
Bonior	Cummings	Franks (NJ)
Bono	Cunningham	Frelinghuysen
Boswell	Danner	Frost
Boucher	Davis (IL)	Gallegly
Boyd	Davis (VA)	Ganske
Brady (TX)	Deal	Gejdenson
Brown (FL)	DeGette	Gekas